GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:965
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
HIV/AIDS IN MYANMAR
Fernandes Shri George

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the International Crisis Group located in Brussels on December 16, 2004 stated that Myanmar has one of the highest rate of adults infected with the HIV/AIDS;

(b) if so, whether the Government is aware that the International crisis Group has warned that amongother things, this presents serious risks to Myanmar`s neighbours; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with this situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a): Yes Sir. According to International Crisis Group (ICG) a Brussels based NGO report dated 16th December, 2004 has mentioned that Myanmar has HIV prevalence of 1.31% by end of 2003 and it is next to the prevalence in Cambodia and Thailand.

(b): In the report they have mentioned that HIV continues to present serious risks to the population (of Myanmar), to security and to Myanmar neighbours.

(c): Government of India initiated strong intervention programme in Manipur, Nagaland which are high prevalence states bordering Myanmar. Intervention includes Information, Education & Communication (IEC), Behavioural Change Communication (BCC) and Harm reduction programme.. Besides governmental agencies, several NGOs are involved in implementation of the intervention activities.